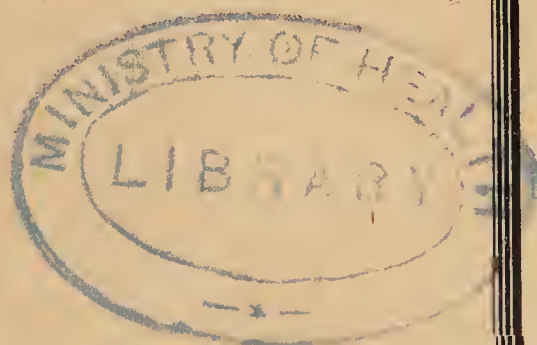


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THE  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
AND  
**THE REPORT**  
of the Sanitary Inspector  
FOR THE YEAR

1951





# LIMEHURST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1951-52

Members of the Council: Parish

Councillor J. J. CRESSWELL, Chairman.....Littlemoss

„ L. MILLIN, Vice-Chairman.....Waterloo

„ T. OLLERENSHAW, J.P.....Waterloo

„ W. ROBERTSON.....Woodhouses

„ E. COLLINGE.....Bardsley

„ W. SLATER.....Alt

## Officials:

E. H. RATCLIFFE, A.C.A.....Clerk of the Council

B. BOWMAN, M.B., Ch.B.....Medical Officer of Health

S. DAVIES, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.....Sanitary Inspector

H. BRADSHAW.....Surveyor

A. HOWSON, A.R.V.A.....Rating Officer

## Public Health Staff:

Medical Officer of Health

Sanitary Inspector

Clerk

# ANNUAL REPORT

●  
Council Offices,

200, Oldham Road,

Waterloo, near Ashton-under-Lyne.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

of the

**Limehurst Rural District Council**

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year 1951. I have pleasure in announcing that the general health remains good.

To the Members of the Council and Officials, I tender my thanks for their assistance and co-operation during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**B. BOWMAN,**

Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

PARISH	AREA IN ACRES	No. of Inhabited Houses	Rateable Value £	Product ld. Rate £
Alt .....	966·724	266	3,176	11
Bardsley .....	537·076	465	6,498	24
Littlemoss ...	703·802	520	6,146	31
Waterloo .....	341·139	1,423	17,392	76
Woodhouses...	529·545	176	2,276	8
Totals...	3,078·286	2,850	35,488	150

Population at 1931 Census (excluding Hartshead) ...	8,151
Population for mid-1951—estimated .....	8,210

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

Generally, the number of notifiable diseases was again small; a further increase in the incidence of measles is noted.

Total number of Notifiable Diseases recorded  
during the year..... 207  
(including tuberculosis)

11 cases of scarlet fever were notified; 2 of these were admitted to hospital.

Infectious disease cases admitted to hospital were as follows:

Scarlet Fever

Hyde ..... 2

Ambulance facilities were provided by the Lancashire County Council for patients admitted to Hyde.

No. of premises (houses) disinfected ..... 13



# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR, 1951 Notified cases only included.

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all ages	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED YEARS										Total Deaths (the figures in this column agree with those supplied by the Registrar General).	Hospital. — Total Cases removed to Hospital from the District.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District.	
		Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45				45—65
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	11	—	1	—	4	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	11	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis-Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	9	—	—	3	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	147	11	11	16	32	36	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	21	—	1	8	3	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Notifiable diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	200	12	14	27	40	43	52	3	1	—	—	3	5	2	1

## TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1951.

YEARS	NEWS CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1								
1—5								
5—10								
10—15								
15—20								
20—25		1				1		
25—35	3	1						
35—45	1				1			
45—55		1						
55—65								
65 and over								
	4	3			1	1		
	7				2			

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1.—Services provided by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

### (a) GENERAL HOSPITALS

The District Infirmary and the Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne, are both controlled and administered by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board acting through their Ashton, Hyde and Glossop Hospital Management Committee.

Both hospitals admit medical and surgical cases; the District Infirmary have an out-patient department and the Lake Hospital provide, through their maternity department, maternity beds and an ante-natal clinic.

### (b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Hyde Isolation Hospital and Westhulme (Oldham) Isolation Hospital continue to take the majority of Limehurst cases which require to be isolated.

Smallpox: The Regional Board would indicate which of their Smallpox Hospitals would be used in the event of a case occurring.

### (c) TUBERCULOSIS SERVICES

The T.B. Dispensary, Lees Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, is now administered by the Regional Hospital Board, though certain aspects of this work, more particularly the domiciliary visiting of cases and contacts, come within the domain of the Local Health Authority's Medical Officers (the Divisional Medical Officers for Health, Divisions Nos. 14 and 17).

The times for attendance at the dispensary are as follows:

Tuesdays ..... 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

Fridays ..... 10.0 to 12.0 noon

2.—Services provided by the Local Health Authority.

Lancashire County Council are the Local Health Authority for the Limehurst area, and they have set up a Divisional Scheme of Administration covering the whole of the County of Lancashire.

The Rural District is zoned into the Health Divisions as follows:

Parish of Woodhouses (only) ..... Health Division No. 14

Offices: "Tylon," Middleton Road, Chadderton. 'Phone: MAIn (Oldham) 6251/2.

Parishes of Alt, Bardsley, Littlemoss and Waterloo

Health Division No. 17

Offices: Divisional Health Offices, St. Michael's Square, Ashton-under-Lyne. 'Phone: Ashton-under-Lyne 2847/8.

The services which are provided by Lancashire County Council, with effect from July 5th, 1948, are as follows:

1. Maternity and Child Welfare.
2. School Medical Service.
3. Midwifery.
4. Health Visiting.
5. Home Nursing.
6. Vaccination and Immunisation.
7. Ambulance Service.
8. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care.
9. Domestic Help.
10. Mental Health.
11. Health Education and Propaganda.



The above services are administered by the Lancashire County Council acting through their Divisional Health Committees Nos. 14 and 17.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47

No. of applications made during the period 1st January,

1951, to 31st December, 1951 ..... Nil

No. of Orders made ..... Nil

#### SCHOOL CLINIC

There are no School Clinics in the District, but facilities are available for school children at the undermentioned premises:

Medical Officer's Inspection Clinic, Water Street, Ashton-under-Lyne

Monday—2.0 to 3.30 p.m.

Thursday—9.30 to 11.0 a.m.

Minor Ailment Clinic, Water Street, Ashton-under-Lyne

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday—1.30 to 3.30 p.m.

Thursday—9.30 to 11.0 a.m.

Special appointments are made for Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic, Ear, Nose and Throat and Artificial Sunlight Clinics.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Welfare Centres and Clinics are administered by the Lancashire County Council; sessions are held regularly in accordance with the following programme:

##### Welfare Centre

(including diphtheria immunisation)

Methodist School, Oldham Road, Waterloo, Ashton-under-Lyne

Every Tuesday at 2.0 p.m.

##### Ante-Natal Clinics

Envile House, Scotland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne

Alternate Fridays—2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

Richmond House, Richmond Street, Ashton-under-Lyne

Alternate Fridays—2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

##### Child Welfare Centres

Envile House, Scotland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne

Tuesday—2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

Richmond House, Richmond Street, Ashton-under-Lyne

Thursday—2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

Ormonde Street Welfare, Hurst, Ashton-under-Lyne  
Wednesday—2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

Limehurst mothers who are in employment, particularly those employed in the textile industry, may make application to the Matron for the admission of their children to any of the Day Nurseries in Health Division No. 17.

The Day Nurseries nearest to Limehurst are: Hurst Day Nursery, King's Road, Ashton-under-Lyne; West End Day Nursery, Manchester Road, Ashton-under-Lyne.

## MIDWIVES

The Midwife allocated to the Rural District is Mrs. A. Harrop, S.C.M., S.R.N., residing at 5, Ney Street, Waterloo, Ashton-under-Lyne. Telephone No.: ASH 2033.

## WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE

2,842 houses are supplied by public mains and have a tap inside the house.

The laying of mains to one of the small schemes to supply Towns water to 40 houses, including 3 milk-producing farms, has now been completed; 2 milk-producing farms and 1 cottage have still to be connected to the new mains. The remaining scheme is still awaiting delivery of pipes to supply 4 cottages only; no work has been carried out on this scheme during the year.

2 Parishes (Waterloo and Bardsley, 1,848 houses) are sewered; the Parish of Littlemoss is partially sewered by the Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne and the sewers are primarily serving this authority's overspill housing scheme. The Parishes of Alt and Woodhouses are without public sewers.

The number of houses in the Parishes of Alt, Littlemoss and Woodhouses which are not served by a public sewer is 708.

## Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

### 1. Inspections, for the purposes of provisions as to health, including inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories with mechanical power ... ..	39	1	—
Factories (without mechanical power ... ..	2	—	—
Other premises under the Act... (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises) ...	8	1	—
Total ... ..	49	2	—

### 2. Defects Found.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
insufficient ... ..	1	1	—	—
unsuitable or defective ... ..	2	2	—	—
not separate for sexes... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	—	—	—	—
Not including offences relating to home work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule of the Factories Act, 1937.				
Total ... ..	3	3		

Number of Returns in Outworkers' Section—4

## Sanitary Inspector's Report

### TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LIMEHURST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the District for the year 1951.

With regard to foodstuffs consumed in the area, these have not given rise to any difficulties; the standard of milk produced within the District has remained good.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all Members and Officials of the Council for their help and valuable co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. DAVIES,

Sanitary Inspector.

### NOTICES SERVED—NUISANCE AND SANITARY DEFECTS

No. of Informal Notices served during 1951 (concerning 153 houses) .....	124
No. of same complied with during 1951 (concerning 110 houses) .....	100
No. of Statutory Notices served .....	23
No. of Statutory Notices complied with .....	36
No. of Legal Proceedings authorised .....	Nil
No. of Legal Proceedings taken .....	Nil

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, DRAINAGE, ETC.

During the year the undermentioned work has been carried out:

No. of waste water closets converted to fresh water closets .....	6
No. of closet pails provided as renewals .....	54
No. of dustbins provided by Local Authority .....	207
No. of premises where existing drains were cleansed or repaired .....	32
No. of public sewers cleansed .....	8



The 586 pail closets are remote from the public sewer and the question of conversion will remain in abeyance until such times as sewerage facilities are provided to these parts of the District.

With reference to the 451 waste water closets in the District, it is generally agreed that this type of convenience should be abolished and replaced by fresh water closets.

The closet accommodation for 2,189 houses is on the water carriage system.

The number of dustbins now to be emptied in the whole District is 3,150 as against 171 in 1922.

On the 1st April, 1949, the Council inaugurated a system of maintaining and renewing dustbins as may be necessary for the reception of house refuse throughout the District, the cost thereof to be charged to General Rate Fund.

The following report is a summary of work done by the Surveyor's Department, details of which have been supplied by your Surveyor, Mr. Bradshaw:

### **Housing**

The total number of inhabited houses in the District has been reduced during the year, due to the transfer of 503 houses to Oldham, under the alteration of boundary, effective from 1st April, 1951.

The resulting position is as follows:

No. of houses at 1st January, 1951 .....	3,221
No. of houses erected by Ashton Corporation .....	104
No. of houses erected by Limehurst Council .....	28
	<hr/>
	3,353
No. of houses transferred to Oldham, 1st April, 1951	503
	<hr/>
Total No. of houses in Limehurst at 1st January, 1952	2,850
	<hr/>

### **Limehurst Council Building Programme**

The number of houses completed in 1951 was 28, bringing the total of post-war houses erected to 166, and, including all houses, the Council now has 228 in the District.

A programme of 12 houses is now in hand for 1952.



## **Building Controls**

The number of applications for erection and alteration of buildings dealt with during the year under bye-laws and Town Planning Regulations was 96.

Of these proposals, 15 were for provision and improvement of sanitary accommodation.

## **Private Streets**

During the year 3 private streets, which were unmade and in a dangerous condition, have been made up and adopted by the Highway Authority.

## **Sewers and Sewage Disposal**

Preparation of the major scheme for the reconstruction of Waterloo Sewage Works is nearing completion and should be considered by the Ministry during 1952.

2 schemes for the provision of sewerage, 1 in Woodhouses and 1 in Alt, were prepared and submitted during the year, but not proceeded with as the expenditure at the present time was disallowed by the Ministry.

## **Refuse Removal**

The collection of house refuse has been maintained throughout the year, on the whole, satisfactorily. 3,150 refuse bins are dealt with, the collection being on a fortnightly basis.

The 586 pail closets are dealt with by weekly collection and, for reasons stated under Sewage Disposal, it has not been possible to reduce the number in the District.

Regarding disposal of refuse, the temporary arrangements at Limehurst Road have proved satisfactory, tipping having been carried out on a deep lift in conjunction with a local industrial undertaking whose dry furnace dross, etc., has supplied cover for the house refuse.

A salvage collection, covering waste paper, metals and rags, has been successfully run during the year in conjunction with the refuse collection.

## Tabulated Record of Sanitary Accommodation at the end of 1951

PARISH	Water Closets	Waste Water Closets	Pail Closets	Galv'd Bins	Cesspits
Alt ... ..	80	22	198	241	10
Bardsley ...	360	189	17	632	—
Littlemoss ...	434	10	136	590	5
Waterloo ...	1266	229	2	1359	—
Woodhouses	65	1	233	328	3
Totals ...	2205	451	586	3150	18

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

No public slaughterhouse is established in the District. There are 4 private slaughterhouses, 1 in Bardsley and 3 in Waterloo.

In January, 1940, private slaughtering ceased, all slaughtering being subject to Government control from this date. No Government slaughterhouse was established in Limehurst.

The following foodstuffs have been found unfit for human consumption:

- 27 pigs
- 2—4 lb. tins of meat
- 31—1 lb. tins of fish
- 7 tins of cooked ham, 63 lb. 15 oz.
- 15—2 $\frac{3}{4}$  oz. tins of shrimps
- 29 tins of French boiled hame, 557 $\frac{1}{2}$  lb.
- 4 sides of English pork, 382 lb.
- 5 tins of peeled shrimps, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  lb.

- 2 tins of salmon, 2 lb.
- 7 tins of evaporated milk
- 2 tins of peas
- 1 tin of strawberries
- 3 tins of Danish ham, 49 lb.
- 12½ lb. of cooked ham
- 28 rabbits, 80 lb. weight
- 2 livers, 16½ lb.

## DAIRY PREMISES

Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies Act), 1944

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised)

Regulations, 1949

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

The District Council is responsible for the granting of dealers' and supplementary licences for heat-treated milk and those in respect of raw designated milk.

The County Council as a Food and Drugs Authority is responsible for the licensing of plant and premises for the heat treatment of milk, i.e. pasteurisers' and sterilisers' licences.

The Regulations do not disturb the responsibility of local authorities regarding the infection of milk with tuberculosis.

Particulars concerning the Regulations are as follows:

No. of milk distributors (raw and designated milks)	
registered .....	56
No. of licences (designated milks) granted .....	47

## MILK SAMPLING

The undermentioned is a summary of work done during the year:

### Tubercle Bacillus—Biological Test

Samples submitted	No. Negative	No. Positive
53	47	6

### Methylene Blue

Samples submitted	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory
54	44	10

Copies of all reports concerning milk sampling are forwarded to the Chief Milk Production Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Government Buildings, Cop Lane, Penwortham, Preston.

## Food and Drugs Act, 1938

### Ice-Cream Heat Treatment Regulations, 1947

No. of premises registered (retailers only) .....	15
No. of premises registered as manufacturers (cold mix only) .....	1

### ICE-CREAM SAMPLING

No. of samples submitted	No. in Grade 1	No. in Grade 2	No. in Grade 3	No. in Grade 4
23	19	4	0	0

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Section 15—Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air

On the 27th October, 1949, the Minister of Food issued Model Bye-Laws Series 1 (in lieu of the Model Bye-Laws Series XXIX, issued 1939); these became operative in this District on the 23rd April, 1950.

In order to obtain uniformity in the administration of the bye-laws in the area, joint meetings of local Sanitary Inspectors from neighbouring authorities are held at frequent intervals to prepare codes of practice and to discuss contentious matters which arise from time to time.

### WATER SUPPLIES

All but 8 houses in the Rural District are supplied from public mains, the majority from the mains of Ashton-under-Lyne, Dukinfield, Stalybridge and District Waterworks, whilst a small number are fed from the Oldham Corporation Waterworks main. The water from both these sources is satisfactory in quality but not in quantity; this applies in the Parishes of Alt and Woodhouses only and is due to aged mains and corrosion. No bacteriological or chemical examinations have been made by the Rural District during the year, such examination being made by the undertakers. There has been no evidence of plumbo-solvent action.

The number of houses supplied from standpipes is nil.

The population supplied direct from public mains is estimated at 8,188.



## HOUSING AND OVERCROWDING

The total number of dwelling-houses in the District at the end of the year was 2,850, mostly of the low-rented type and containing 2 bedrooms.

132 new houses have been erected during the year, a full report of which can be found in the Surveyor's section of the report.

34 applicants from the housing register have been rehoused, the majority of the occupants having been in lodgings. It has also been possible to rehouse a few applicants who have been tenants of old houses and the families so large that separation of sexes in bedrooms has been impossible. A few cases of sufferers from T.B., especially phthisis, have also been rehoused.

During the year 42 new applications for tenancy of your Council houses were received from people living in lodgings and 23 applications from people who are tenants. The total number of applicants under these two categories on the register at the end of the year was 204; the grand total of applicants in all categories on the housing register at the year-end was 274, and 72 of the 274 had no residential or priority qualification.

All eligible applications from lodgers with 1 or more children and tenants with 3 or more children who applied for a Council house prior to 1950 have been housed.

## SHOPS AND OFFICES

Visits have been made to shops in the District and in the main these have been found to be satisfactory; no action was necessary with regard to offices.



## RODENT CONTROL

Since February, 1944, the Council has been responsible for the work under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919; the powers were delegated by the Lancashire County Council. These powers were repealed under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, and on the 31st March, 1950, the District Council became responsible for the administration of more comprehensive duties under the Pests Act.

The Council has one trained Rodent operative on a part-time basis and the work is supervised by the Sanitary Inspector.

No reservoir infestations of rodents were found, but a few cases of minor infestations have been dealt with. All infestations found on domestic premises have been dealt with free of cost. All cases found in industrial and commercial premises were dealt with and costs recovered from the persons responsible.

Your sewage works and tips at Bardsley and Waterloo have received routine attention, also the small sewage disposal unit at Littlemoss, and it has been possible to keep the rodent population under control.

With reference to rodent infestations found on the farms, etc., the Lancashire Agricultural Committee, Pests Infestation Department, rendered ready assistance and with their co-operation in respect of all cases notified to this Authority the farmers were, on the whole, well satisfied with the results.

The undermentioned particulars have been forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in accordance with Form PDP/R.2:

# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS, 1949

## TYPE OF PROPERTY

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	TOTAL
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District ... ..	6	2,985	60	173	3,224
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1951 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise ... ..	(a) — (b) 13	13 73	— 11	3 8	16 105
III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats ... ..	Major — Minor 6	— 24	— 6	— 3	— 39
IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
V. Number of infested properties (Under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority ... ..	6	47	6	3	62
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4 :— (1) Treatment ... .. (2) Structural Works (i.e., proofing) ... ..	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
TOTAL ... ..	25	157	23	17	222
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4 ... ..					
VIII. Legal proceedings ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Number of "block" control schemes carried out	2	—	—	—	—

## OTHER VERMIN

No. of premises inspected for vermin .....	44
No. of premises disinfested .....	4

The Council's sewage works and tips have been reasonably free from crickets and other pests and it has not been necessary to spray the tips with insecticide.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT

During the year, 10 half-hourly observations were taken of smoke emissions from agricultural and industrial undertakings within the Rural District.







